

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, DALLAS DIVISION

67 630-R

IN RE:

BUCCANEER ENERGY CORPORATION, and JOSEPH "CHIP" LANGSTON **Plaintiffs**

v.

WALTER REISSMAN, JOSEPH TOVEY, and ANDREW KIMMINS Defendants

JURY TRIAL

DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES WALTER REISSMAN, JOSEPH TOVEY, and ANDREW KIMMINS, Defendants in the above numbered and styled cause, and file this Defendants' Notice of Removal under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) and would respectfully show the court as follows:

Introduction

- 1. Plaintiffs are BUCCANEER ENERGY CORPORATION ("Buccaneer") and JOSEPH "CHIP" LANGSTON ("Langston").
- 2. Defendants are WALTER REISSMAN ("Reissman"), JOSEPH TOVEY ("Tovey"), and ANDREW KIMMINS ("Kimmins"). Defendants Reissman and Tovey are citizens of the State of New York; Defendant Kimmins is a citizen of Great Britain.
- 3. On October 9, 2009, Plaintiffs sued Defendants for alleged defamation and slander per se in the 86th Judicial District Court of Kaufman County, Texas.

4. Defendant received notice of the suit on March 9, 2010. Defendants files this notice of removal within the 30-day time period required by 28 U.S.C. §1446(b).

B. Basis for Removal

- 5. Removal is proper because there is complete diversity between the parties. 28 U.S.C. §1332(a); *Darden v. Ford Consumer Fin. Co.*, 200 F.3d 753, 755 (11th Cir. 2000). Plaintiffs are a Texas corporation and an individual who is a citizen of Texas. None of the Defendants are citizens of the State of Texas. Defendants Reissman and Tovey are individuals who are citizens of New York State. Defendant Kimmins is a citizen of Great Britain.
- 6. The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, excluding interest, costs, and attorney fees. 28 U.S.C. §1332(a). Plaintiff alleges in its *Original Petition* the Defendants are liable for the following damages:

Plaintiff Langston has endured shame, embarrassment, humiliation, and mental pain and anguish. Plaintiff Buccaneer has suffered loss of reputation, good name, and standing in the business community. Additionally, Plaintiffs have and will in the future be seriously injured in their reputation, good name, standing in the community and will be exposed to the hatred, contempt, and ridicule of the public in general as well as of their business associates, clients, friend, and relatives.

Although, Plaintiffs do not allege a specific amount in controversy in their petition, it is apparent from both the nature and severity of their allegations the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00. *See White v. FCI USA, Inc.*, 319 F.3d 672, 674 (5th Cir. 2003) (finding Plaintiff's lengthy list of compensatory and punitive damages, such as emotional distress, exceeded the \$75,000.00 amount in controversy requirement).

- 7. All Defendants consent to the removal of this case to federal court. *Balazik v. County of Dauphin*, 44 F.3d 209, 213 (3rd Cir. 1995); *see* 28 U.S.C. §1446(a).
- 8. All pleadings, process, orders, and other filings in the state court action are attached, as Exhibit "A", to this notice as required by 28 U.S.C. §1446(a).
- 9. Defendant will promptly file a copy of this notice of removal with the clerk of the state court where the action has been pending.

C. JURY DEMAND

- 10. Plaintiff did not demand a jury in the state court action.
- 11. Defendants assert their rights under the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and demand, in accord with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38, a trial by jury on all issues.

D. Conclusion

12. Complete diversity exists between the parties and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00. For these reasons, Defendants asks the court to remove the action to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division

Respectfully submitted,

The Rosenblatt Law Firm, P.C.

4103 Parkdale Street San Antonio, Texas 78229

Tel: (210) 562-2900 Fax: (210) 562-2929

By:

JAMES D. ROSENBLATT State Bar No. 00788320

SHAN MARIE EGLISKIS State Bar No. 24059712

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF REMOVAL was served via facsimile transmission and/or regular U.S. mail, postage pre-paid, to the following counsel of record, on this 30% day of March 2010:

Jesse Blanco P.O. Box 680875 San Antonio, Texas 78268 Phone – (210) 509-6925 Fax – (210) 509-6903

Via Facsimile (210) 509-6903

JAMES D. ROSENBLATT SHAN MARIE EGLISKIS

Exhibit "A"

Sandra Featherston District Clerk



County Courthouse 100 W. Mulberry St. Kaufman, Texas 75142 972-932-0274

March 30, 2010

This is to certify the following documents are true and correct copies of originals on file in Cause No. 79695-86 styled Joseph "Chip" Langston, Buccaneer Energy Corporation vs. Walter Reissman, Joseph Tovey, and Andrew Kimmins

Witness my hand and seal of office in the city of Kaufman, Kaufman County, Texas on this the 30th day of March, 2010.

Sandra Featherston District Clerk Kaufman County, Texas

By: COOK

Civil Docket

CAUSE NO. 79495 86

IN RE:

\$ IN THE DISTRICT COURT

\$ BUCCANEER ENERGY

CORPORATION, and
JOSEPH "CHIP" LANGSTON,

Plaintiffs,

Vs.

WALTER REISSMAN,
JOSEPH TOVEY, and
ANDREW KIMMINS,

Defendants.

\$ KAUFMAN COUNTY, TEXAS

PLAINTIFFS' ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE COURT:

BUCCANEER ENERGY CORPORATION (hereinafter "Buccaneer"), a Texas corporation, and JOSEPH "CHIP" LANGSTON (hereinafter "Langston"), both conducting business at 10210 Highway 242, Kaufman, Kaufman County, Texas, the Plaintiffs herein, complain of WALTER REISSMAN (hereinafter "Reissman"), JOSEPH TOVEY (hereinafter "Tovey") and ANDREW KIMMINS (hereinafter "Kimmins"), the Defendants herein, and for cause of action shows:

DISCOVERY LEVEL

1. The Plaintiffs plead that discovery should be conducted in accordance with a discovery control plan under Civil Procedure Rule190.3.

PARTIES

Defendant Reissman is a natural person and may be served with process at 400 Rella Blvd.,
 Montebello, New York 10901.

- 3. Defendant Tovey is a natural person and may be served with process at 40 Wall St., New York, New York 10005.
- 4. Defendant Kimmins is a natural person and may be served with process at HSSL 14 Rue du Rhone. Geneva, CH-1200.

BACKGROUND

- 5. As recently as September 17, 2009 and for several months after that, Defendants made numerous remarks to one or more officers of Park Cities Bank, Dallas, Texas, which is not a party to this cause of action, regarding Plaintiff Buccaneer's business practices and Langston's honesty and integrity.
- 6. These defamatory statements constitute slander per se because they asserted that the Plaintiffs were guilty of dishonesty and gross misconduct.
- 7. As stated in Paragraph 5 above, one or more of the Defendants published the defamatory statements on September 17, 2009, and upon information and belief, number times before that to one or more officers of Park Cities Bank.
- 8. The defamatory statements set forth above are false. The truth is that Plaintiffs have always conducted their business activities in an honest and truthful manner, which contradicts the assertions made in the defamatory statements.
- 9. The Defendants made the false and defamatory statement(s) set forth above by negligently failing to state the truth. The Defendants either knew or should have known in the exercise of ordinary care that the statements were false.
- 10. The Plaintiffs have conducted business with Park Cities Bank for several years and the false and defamatory statements have caused great harm to Plaintiffs' reputation and business relationship with said bank.

Prior to the Defendants' defamatory remarks, the Plaintiffs enjoyed an excellent professional reputation. Plaintiffs conducted business with Park Cities Bank without ever having to deal with negative impact on their banking relationship.

DAMAGES

- 12. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' false and defamatory statements, the Plaintiff Langston has endured shame, embarrassment, humiliation, and mental pain and anguish. Plaintiff Buccaneer has suffered loss of reputation, good name and standing in the business community. Additionally, Plaintiffs have and will in the future be seriously injured in their reputation, good name, standing in the community, and will be exposed to the hatred, contempt, and ridicule of the public in general as well as of their business associates, clients, friends, and relatives. Consequently, the Plaintiffs seek actual damages in a sum within the jurisdictional limits of this Court.
- 13. The Plaintiffs request that the Defendants be cited to appear and answer, and that on final trial the plaintiff have the following:
 - a. Judgment against Defendants for actual damages in a sum within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.
 - b. Judgment for exemplary damages against Defendants in a sum determined by the trier of fact.
 - c. Prejudgment and postjudgment interest as provided by law.
 - d. Costs of suit.
 - e. Such other and further relief to which Plaintiffs may be justly entitled.

2442200

Respectfully submitted,

Jesse Planco, TBN 02449600

Attorney for Debtor P.O. Box 680875

San Antonio, Texas 78268

210.509.6925 Telephone

210.509.6903 Facsimile

lawyerjblanco@gmail.com

1009 OCT -9 PM 2: 20

ITATION-NON RESIDENT NOTICE, Either Court Class 4 THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause # 79695-86

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: Walter Reissman 400 Rella Blvd Montebello NY 10901

Respondent, Greetings:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear by filing a written answer to Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 86th District Court of Kaufman County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Kaufman, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said Court, on the 9th day of October, 2009, in this cause, numbered 79695-86 on the docket of said Court and styled Joseph "Chip Langston, Buccaneer Energy Corporation Vs. Walter Reissman, Joseph Tovey, et al.

The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition, accompanying this citation.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Kaufman, Texas, this on this the 10th day of March, 2010.

SANDRA FEATHERSTON

DISTRICT CLERK

100 W Mulberry St

Rhonda Hughey

Attorney for Plaintiff: Jesse Blanco PO Box 680875 San Antonio TX 78268

SHERIFF'S RETURN

Came to hand on t	the day of	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, and executed
in	County,	by delivering to each	of the within
named defendants, in per delivery, together with the times and places, to-wit:	son, a true copy of this ci accompanying true and	by delivering to each tation, having first endorsed thereor correct copy of the Plaintiff's petition	i, at the following
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* CITATION-NON RESIDENT NOTICE, Either Court Class 4
THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause # 79695-86

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO:
Joseph Tovey
40 Wall St
New York NY 10005

Respondent, Greetings:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear by filing a written answer to Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 86th District Court of Kaufman County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Kaufman, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said Court, on the 9th day of October, 2009, in this cause, numbered 79695-86 on the docket of said Court and styled Joseph "Chip Langston, Buccaneer Energy Corporation Vs. Walter Reissman, Joseph Tovey, et al.

The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition, accompanying this citation.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Kaufman, Texas, this on this the 10th day of March, 2010.

SANDRA FEATHERSTON

DISTRICT CLERK 100 W Mulberry St

Kaufman, TX 75142

Rhonda Hughey

Deputy

Attorney for Plaintiff: Jesse Blanco PO Box 680875 San Antonio TX 78268

SHERIFF'S RETURN

Came to hand on	the day of	,	, and executed		
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named defendants, in per	son, a true copy of this c	itation, having first endorsed thereor	the date of		
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CITATION-NON RESIDENT NOTICE, Either Court Class 4

Cause # 79695-86

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: Andrew Kimmins HSSL 14 Rue de Rhone Geneva CH-1200

Respondent, Greetings:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear by filing a written answer to Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 86th District Court of Kaufman County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Kaufman, Texas.

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The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Plaintiffs' Original Petition, accompanying this citation.

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Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Kaufman, Texas, this on this the 10th day of March, 2010.

SANDRA FEATHERSTON

DISTRICT CLERK

100 W Mulberry St Kauman TX 76142

Rhonda Hughey

Deputy

Attorney for Plaintiff: Jesse Blanco PO Box 680875 San Antonio TX 78268

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Came to hand on t	the day of		, and executed
in	County,	by delivering to each	of the within
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	-	Person Administering Oath	

CAUSE NO. 79695-86

§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
§ § 8	
8 § 8	
§ § 8	86th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
\$ § 8	
8 8 8	KAUFMAN COUNTY, TEXAS
	<i>\$</i> \$

DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

On March 31, 2010, Defendants Glen Rose Petroleum Corp. ("Glen Rose"), filed the attached notice of removal in the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rosenblatt Law Firm, P.C.

4103 Parkdale Street San Antonio, Texas 78229

Tel: (210) 562-2900 Fax; (210) 562-2929

By: Junes Robenhatt

JAMES D. ROSENBLATT State Bar No. 00788320

SHAN MARIE EGLISKIS State Bar No. 24059712

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

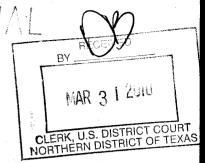
I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL was served via facsimile transmission and/or regular U.S. mail, postage pre-paid, to the following counsel of record, on this 31st day of March, 2010:

Jesse Blanco P.O. Box 680875 San Antonio, Texas 78268 Phone – (210) 509-6925 Fax – (210) 509-6903 Via Facsimile (210) 509-6903

JAMES D. ROSENBLATT SHAN MARIE EGLISKIS

United States District Court Northern District of Texas

Supplemental Civil Cover Sheet For Cases Removed From State Court



This form must be attached to the Civil Cover Sheet at the time the case is filed in the U.S. District Clerk's Office. Additional sheets may be used as necessary.

1. State Court Information:

Please identify the court from which the case is being removed and specify the number assigned to the case in that court.

Court 86th District Court

Kaufman County, Texas

Case Number

Cause No. 79695-86

2. Style of the Case:

Please include all Plaintiff(s), Defendant(s), Intervenor(s), Counterclaimant(s), Crossclaimant(s) and Third Party Claimant(s) still remaining in the case and indicate their party type. Also, please list the attorney(s) of record for each party named and include their bar number, firm name, correct mailing address, and phone number (including area code.)

Party and Party Type In re: Buccaneer Energy Corporation, and Joseph "Chip" Langston, Plaintiffs v. Walter Reissman, Joseph Tovey, and Andrew Kimmins, Defendants Jury Demand:		Attorney(s) fs: Jesse Blanco TBN: 02449600 P.O. Box 680875 San Antonio, Texas 7826 (210) 509-6925 ts: James D. Rosenblatt The Rosenblatt Law Firm 4103 Parkdale San Antonio, Texas 7822 (210) 562-2900
Was a Jury Demand made in State Court?	□ Yes	⊠ No
If "Yes," by which party and on what da	ite?	

Supp Page	plemental Civil Cover Sheet 2		
4.	Answer:		
	Was an Answer made in State Court	P □ Yes □ No	
	If "Yes," by which party and o	on what date?	
	Party	Date	
5.	Unserved Parties:		
	The following parties have not been s	erved at the time this case was removed:	
	<u>Party</u>	Reason(s) for No Servi	ce
	Walter Reissman Joseph Tovey	To date, the list not been properly been made aware o	served, but have
6.	Nonsuited, Dismissed or Terminate	ed Parties:	
	Please indicate any changes from the change:	style on the State Court papers and the re	ason for that
	Party	Reason	
	N/A		
_			
7.	Claims of the Parties:		
	The filing party submits the following litigation:	summary of the remaining claims of each	party in this
	Party	Claim(s)	

Defamation

Buccaneer Energy Company
Joseph "Chip" Langston

SJS 44 (TXND Rev. 2/10)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Buccaneer Energy Corpor	ration & Joseph "Chip" Langston	DIFENDANTS Walter Reissman, Joseph Tovey, and Andrew Kimmins
• • •	e of First Listed Plaintiff Kaufman Co., TX EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES BY	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)
Jesse Blanco P.O. Box 680875	e, Address, and Telephone Number) 3. Phone: (210) 509-6925	Attorney of the Rosenblatt Law Firm Attorney of
II. BASIS OF JURISI	OICTION (Place an "X" in One Box On NOH)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place an "X" in One Box for Plain
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State 1
2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State
		Citizen or Subject of a 3 🔀 3 Foreign Nation
IV. NATURE OF SUI	T (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	Foreign Country
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	Slander	
Original Proceeding S 2 R	28 11 8 0 8 1446/6)	☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation ☐ 7 Appeal to Distributing from Magistrate Judgment ☐ 3 Multidistrict ☐ 7 Magistrate Judgment ☐ 6 Multidistrict ☐ 7 Magistrate Judgment ☐ 7 Magistrate Judgment ☐ 7 Magistrate Judgment ☐ 7 Magistrate Judgment ☐ 7 Magistrate ☐ 7 Magi
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	Brief description of cause:	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	Plaintiff sued Defendants for defar CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	nation in Texas District Court. ON DEMAND'S CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: 75,001.00 JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes 7 No
VIII. RELATED CAS PENDING OR CLO	SE(S) (See instructions) SED:	CONTRACT DIRECTOR
DATE	JUDGE	DOCKET NUMBER ATTORNEY OF RECORD
^{DATE} 03/31/2010	SIGNATURE OF A	ATTORNEY OF RECORD
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	Q	
RECEIPT # A	AMOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE MAG. JUDGE